GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1599
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2003
NEW LEGISLATION FOR BROADCASTING SECTOR
M. JAGANNATH

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring a new legislation to regulate the Indian Broadcasting Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any similar legislative proposal was mooted in the past; and

(d) if so, the reasons for rescinding the said legislative proposal ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) &(b): The proposal to introduce a suitable legislation for regulating content broadcast on electronic media is under consideration.

(c)&(d): The Broadcasting Bill 1997 was introduced in the Parliament in May 1997,which lapsed on the dissolution of Lok Sabha in December, 1997. Thereafter, a draft Broadcasting Regulatory AuthorityBill 2000 was prepared. However, it was decided to frame a comprehensive statute covering all the aspects of Broadcasting, Information Technology and Communication Sectors, and hence the Communication Convergence Bill 2001, was introduced in the Parliament.